

California Biosolids Trends In 2010

Tonnages of biosolids generated and used continued to decline slightly due to the economy, treatment processes continuing to become more efficient, and old stockpiles and lagoon biosolids having now been removed.

There was a significant increase in land application of Class B biosolids (reversing a trend of several years). Several POTWs that had been landfilling were given better offers by land appliers. Also several POTWs that had been using Class A Alternative 4 began using contractors who applied the biosolids as Class B. (A few POTWs continue to certify Class A Alternative 4 for liability purposes even though their biosolids are applied as Class B.) Several facilities ceased air drying to Class A and switched to presses or centrifuges.

There was a decrease in Class A land application, due in part to the City of Los Angeles increasing the tonnage going to deep well injection. There was also an increased tonnage of heat dried biosolids from several facilities going to cement kilns. There was a decrease in the tonnage going to composting and the tonnage certified using Alternative 4 after air drying.

Tonnages going to surface disposal and incineration remained about the same. Tonnages going to Arizona dropped slightly. Tonnages going to Nevada remained about the same.

All values expressed in dry metric tons for the calendar year

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| Total generated: | 2010: 610,000 | |
| Total used or disposed: | 630,000 | |
| In storage or long-term treatment: | 20,000 | |
| Land application: | 394,000 | 63% |
| Class A: | 245,000 | 39% |
| Compost: | 160,000 | |
| In CA: | 140,000 | |
| In AZ: | 18,000 | |
| In NV: | 2,000 | |
| Heat Drying: | 4,500 | |
| Thermophilic digestion: | 60,000 | |
| Alkali treatment: | 20,000 | |
| Air drying: | < 500 | |

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| Class B: | 149,000 | 24% |
| Yuma County, AZ: | 70,000 | |
| Merced County: | 26,000 | |
| Sacramento County: | 21,000 | |
| Kern County: | 10,000 | |
| Sonoma County: | 8,000 | |
| Solano County: | 5,000 | |
| Stanislaus County | 4,000 | |
| Washoe County, NV: | 2,000 | |
| Tulare County: | 1,500 | |
| Shasta County: | 1,000 | |
| Alameda: | 1,000 | |
| Napa County: | 500 | |

Other counties with small amounts: San Joaquin, Siskiyou, Mendocino, Humboldt

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| Surface Disposal: | 23,000 | 4% |
| Incineration: | 21,000 | 3% |
| Deep Well Injection: | 9,000 | 1% |
| Fuel for Cement Kilns: | 19,000 | 3% |
| Landfill: | 144,000 | 23% |
| ADC: | 75,000 | 12% |
| Fill: | 69,000 | 11% |

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| Total to AZ: | 88,000 | 14% |
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